

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-01 OMB-01

CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01

GSA-01 INT-05 /102 W

----- 118058

R 110426Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1208

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, JA, RP

SUBJECT: GOP AND GOJ HOLD COPPER TALKS QUIETLY

REF: A. MANILA A-57, FEBRUARY 17, 1975 (NOTAL); B. MANILA 1961

1. ONE MONTH AFTER NEGOTIATING IN PUBLIC REGARDING POSSIBLE JAPANESE CUTBACKS OF COPPER CONCENTRATE IMPORTS (REFAIR), JAPANESE AND FILIPINO PANELS HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATING QUIETLY IN MANILA WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF JAPANESE GOVERNMENT EXTENDING INVENTORY FINANCING TO ITS SMELTERS IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY CUTBACKS OF FILIPINO SHIPMENTS. BILATERAL TALKS WERE HELD FOR TWO DAYS LAST WEEK, AND EACH PANEL WAS MIXED GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS WITH FILIPINO PANEL HEADED BY AMBASSADOR SERGIO A. BARRERA AND JAPANESE PANEL BY AMBASSADOR MASAO SAWAKI. TALKS WERE PAVED BY EARLIER MEETING IN TOKYO BETWEEN JOSE SORIANO OF ATLAS AND YOSHIHIRO INAI, PRESIDENT OF MARUBENI METAL COPORATION AND ALSO PRESIDENT OF JAPAN SMELTERS

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ASSOCIATION.

2. GOP CONTINUES TO INSIST ON NO CUTBACKS THAT GOJ PROHIBITION OF REFINED COPPER EXPORTS WAS IN DEFERENCE TO CIPEC WITHOUT ANY CONSULTATIONS WITH PHILIPPINES WHICH SHIPS 85 PERCENT OF ITS CONCENTRATES TO JAPAN.

3. JAPANESE ATTITUDE, NOT ONLY AT THIS SESSION BUT FROM VERY BEGINNING, WAS QUITE DEFENSIVE AND INDEED PLEADING ACCORDING TO ONE PHILIPPINE PRODUCER PARTICIPATING IN MEETINGS. JAPANESE PROMISED TO UNDERTAKE NO UNILATERAL CUTBACKS, AND SHIPMENTS ARE GOIN AHEAD AS SCHEDULED ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN SOME DELAY IN OPENING OF L/C'S.

4. THERE WAS A LONG DISCUSSION ON A PRESS RELEASE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING BUT NOTHING HAS BEEN SEEN IN THE PRESS OF THIS PRESS RELEASE. TIMES JOURNAL, HOWEVER, REPORTED MARCH 11 POSSIBILITY OF GOJ INVENTORY FINANCING. ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO DECISION TAKEN AT MEETING, CURRENT SITUATION MEETS GOP DESIRES AS THERE HAVE BEEN NO IMPOSED CUTBACKS OF CONCENTRATE SHIPMENTS AND ONLY ONE VOLUNTARY CUTBACK. SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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